

09-06-00

OMB No 0661-0011 (12-31-95)

A

PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Docket Number

TO THE COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS:

Transmitted herewith for filing is the patent application of LOUIS SHAMIEfor HARDWARE SYSTEM FOR A CRIB

Enclosed are:

- SIXTEEN (16) sheets of drawings.
- an assignment of the invention to _____
- a certified copy of a _____ application.
- associate power of attorney.
- a verified statement to establish small entity status under 37 CFR 1.9 and 1.27.
- AN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT POST CARD

CLAIMS AS FILED

	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE	FEE
BASIC FEE				\$ 690
TOTAL CLAIMS	17 - 20 =	0		-
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS	2 - 3 =	0	x	-
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM PRESENT				
* NUMBER EXTRA MUST BE ZERO OR LARGER			TOTAL	\$ 690
If applicant is a small entity under 37 CFR 1.9 and 1.27, then divide total fee by 2, and enter amount here.				SMALL ENTITY TOTAL \$ 345

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9/5/2000

Date

Arthur ID Deptalby

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TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$)

Complete if Known

Application Number	
Filing Date	
First Named Inventor	LOUIS SHAMIE
Examiner Name	
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Attorney Docket No.	

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FEE CALCULATION (continued)

3. ADDITIONAL FEES

Large Entity Fee Code (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
105	130	205 65 Surcharge - late filing fee or oath	
127	50	227 25 Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet	
139	130	139 130 Non-English specification	
147	2,520	147 2,520 For filing a request for reexamination	
112	920*	112 920* Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action	
113	1,840*	113 1,840* Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action	
115	110	215 55 Extension for reply within first month	
116	380	216 190 Extension for reply within second month	
117	870	217 435 Extension for reply within third month	
118	1,360	218 680 Extension for reply within fourth month	
128	1,850	228 925 Extension for reply within fifth month	
119	300	219 150 Notice of Appeal	
120	300	220 150 Filing a brief in support of an appeal	
121	260	221 130 Request for oral hearing	
138	1,510	138 1,510 Petition to institute a public use proceeding	
140	110	240 55 Petition to revive - unavoidable	
141	1,210	241 605 Petition to revive - unintentional	
142	1,210	242 605 Utility issue fee (or reissue)	
143	430	243 215 Design issue fee	
144	580	244 290 Plant issue fee	
122	130	122 130 Petitions to the Commissioner	
123	50	123 50 Petitions related to provisional applications	
126	240	126 240 Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt	
581	40	581 40 Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)	
146	690	246 345 Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR § 1.129(a))	
149	690	249 345 For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR § 1.129(b))	
Other fee (specify) _____			
Other fee (specify) _____			
* Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid			SUBTOTAL (3) (\$)

2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES

Total Claims	Extra Claims	Fee from below	Fee Paid
17	-20** =	X =	—
2	-3** =	X =	—
Multiple Dependent			

**or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see below

Large Entity Small Entity

Fee Code (\$)	Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description
103	18	203 9 Claims in excess of 20
102	78	202 39 Independent claims in excess of 3
104	260	204 130 Multiple dependent claim, if not paid
109	78	209 39 ** Reissue independent claims over original patent
110	18	210 9 ** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent

SUBTOTAL (2) (\$)

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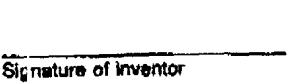
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Name (Print/Type)	ARTHUR I. DEGENHOLTZ	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	22916	Telephone	201 692 1292
Signature	<i>Arthur I. Degenholtz</i>	Date	9/5/2000		

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STATEMENT CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS (37 CFR 1.9(f) & 1.27(b))--INDEPENDENT INVENTOR		Docket Number (Optional)
Applicant, Patentee, or Identifier: <u>LOUIS SHAMIE</u>		
Application or Patent No.:		
Filed or Issued:		
Title: <u>HARDWARE SYSTEM FOR A CRIB</u>		
<p>As a below named Inventor, I hereby state that I qualify as an independent inventor as defined in 37 CFR 1.9(c) for purposes of paying reduced fees to the Patent and Trademark Office described in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the specification filed herewith with title as listed above. <input type="checkbox"/> the application identified above. <input type="checkbox"/> the patent identified above. <p>I have not assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed, and am under no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license, any rights in the invention to any person who would not qualify as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9(c) if that person had made the invention, or to any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e).</p> <p>Each person, concern, or organization to which I have assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed or am under an obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license any rights in the invention is listed below</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No such person, concern, or organization exists. <input type="checkbox"/> Each such person, concern, or organization is listed below. 		
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LOUIS SHAMIE NAME OF INVENTOR  Signature of Inventor <u>8/28/00</u> Date	NAME OF INVENTOR  Signature of Inventor Date	NAME OF INVENTOR  Signature of Inventor Date

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HARDWARE SYSTEM FOR A CRIB

by

LOUIS SHAMIE

5

The present application is based on my United States
Provisional Patent Application, Serial Number 60/164,079,
titled Hardware System for a Crib.

10

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present application relates generally to the field
of cribs and more particularly to a hardware system for a
crib which can be easily and safely assembled without a need
for tools and which can be easily operated with just one
15 hand.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Despite the various developments in the field of cribs
there remains a need for a hardware system for a crib which

is strong, safe, easy to assemble and relatively inexpensive.

5

OBJECTS AND SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

It is an object of the present invention to provide a hardware system for a crib which can be assembled by a user without the need for tools of any kind.

Another object of the present invention is to provide a
10 hardware system for a crib which can be easily operated with just one hand.

Another object of the present invention is to provide a hardware system for a crib in which the side rail cannot fall out.

15 Another object of the present invention is to provide a hardware system for a crib which meets all applicable safety standards.

Another object of the present invention is to provide a
hardware system for a crib which provides for safe
20 operation.

Another object of the present invention is to provide a hardware system for a crib which provides reliable long term operation.

Yet another object of the present invention is to provide a hardware system for a crib which comprises a relatively small number of component parts each of which can be manufactured economically resulting in a relatively low 5 overall cost.

The foregoing and other objects and advantages of the invention will appear more clearly hereinafter.

In accordance with the present invention there is provided a hardware system for a crib which includes a pair 10 of upper rail guides which are mounted on opposite ends of the upper rail of the side rail assembly of the crib. Each of the upper rail guides has a T-shaped steel pin which rides in a T-shaped slot which is formed in the upper guides which are mounted on each of the headboards of the crib.

15 A key feature of the present invention is the lower rail guide. A pair of lower guides are mounted on lower portions of the headboards. The lower rail guides each have a T-shaped steel pin. When the side rail is in the upper locked position, the steel pin enters a locking slot formed 20 in the upper portion of the lower guides. When it is desired to lower the side rail of the crib, the side rail must first be raised to allow the steel pin to leave the locking slot and the side rail must then be pushed inwardly relative to

the crib to overcome an integrally formed cantilever spring which normally blocks access to a guide groove which is formed in the lower guide. When the cantilever spring is pushed inwardly, the steel pin gains access to the guide
5 slot and the steel pin can then slide downwardly thereby moving the side rail down. The cantilever spring and the lower guide are preferably integrally formed of plastic.
When the side rail is raised, the steel pin pushes past the cantilever spring and then rides down a ramp to enter the
10 locking slot.

The side rail can be easily operated with just one hand by raising the side rail with one hand and pushing the side rail inwardly with the knee.

The side rail is assembled to the headboard by
15 inserting the steel pin into a T-shaped entrance slot which is formed in the lower guide thereby allowing the steel pin to enter the guide slot.

It should be understood that this T-shaped entrance slot can be positioned on the side of the guide slot as
20 shown or on the bottom of the guide slot or on the top of the guide slot.

In an alternate embodiment of the invention, the upper rail guides are replaced by upper rail guides which have a

pair of inwardly projecting flanges which engage the T-shaped upper guide.

DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

5 Other important objects and advantages of the invention will be apparent from the following drawings in which:

Fig. 1 is a side elevation view of a crib showing the installation of the hardware system for a crib according to the present invention;

10 Fig. 2 is a fragmentary side elevation view drawn to an enlarged scale showing the attachment of the lower rail to the lower guide which is mounted on the left headboard;

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary elevation view taken along the line 3-3 of Fig. 2;

15 Fig. 4 is a fragmentary side elevation view drawn to an enlarged scale showing the attachment of the lower rail to the lower guide which is mounted on the right headboard;

Fig. 5 is a fragmentary perspective view showing the lower guide removed from the headboard and showing the steel pin of the lower rail guide positioned in the locking slot, with the lower rail guide in the upper and locked position and showing the cantilever plastic spring covering the guide slot;

Fig. 6 is a perspective view of the upper guide;

Fig. 7 is a front elevation view of the upper guide;

Fig. 8 is a side elevation view of the upper guide;

Fig. 9 is a rear elevation view of the upper guide;

5 Fig. 10 is a elevation view of the headboard with the
headboard shown removed from the crib with the headboard
shown as shipped from the factory with the upper rail guide
and the lower rail guide in place;

Fig. 11 is a perspective view of the side rail

10 assembly;

Fig. 12 is a perspective view of the lower guide;

Fig. 13 is a perspective view of the lower rail guide;

Fig. 14 is a rear elevation view of the lower guide;

15 Fig. 14A is a side view taken along the line 14A-14A
of Fig. 14;

Fig. 14B is a fragmentary cross-sectional view taken
along the line 14B-14B of Fig. 14;

Fig. 14C is an elevation view of a release pin for use
on the lower guide;

20 Fig. 15 is a front elevation view of the lower guide;

Fig. 15A is a fragmentary cross-sectional view taken
along the line 15A-15A of Fig. 15;

Fig. 15B is a fragmentary view similar to Fig. 15 showing the deflected position of the cantilever spring in broken lines;

Fig. 15C is a cross-sectional view taken along the line 5 15C-15C of Fig. 15;

Fig. 16 is a side elevation view of the lower guide;

Fig. 17 is an end elevation view of the lower guide;

Fig. 18 is a bottom plan view of the lower guide;

Fig. 19 is a top plan view of the lower guide;

10 Fig. 20 is a cross-sectional view taken along the line 20-20 of Fig. 19;

Fig. 21 is a plan view taken along the line 21-21 of Fig. 20;

Fig. 22 is a perspective view of a rubber bumper;

15 Fig. 23 is a perspective view of an alternative upper guide;

Fig. 24 is a perspective view of an alternative upper rail guide;

20 Fig. 25 is an elevation view of an alternative lower guide which incorporates a metal spring;

Fig. 26 is a fragmentary perspective view of the alternative lower guide of Fig. 25 showing the details of

construction of the metal spring and showing the side rail assembly in the upper locked position;

Fig. 27 is an elevation view of an alternative lower guide which incorporates an alternative metal spring, and

5 Fig. 28 is a fragmentary perspective view of the alternative lower guide of Fig. 27 showing the details of construction of the alternative metal spring and showing the side rail assembly in the upper locked position.

10

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

With reference to the drawings, in which like reference numbers designate like or corresponding parts throughout, there is shown in Fig. 1 a hardware system for a crib, generally designated by reference number 10, made in accordance with the present invention, which includes: a pair of upper rail guides 12 which are mounted on opposite ends of the upper rail 14 of the side rail assembly 16 of a crib 18. Each of the upper rail guides 12 has a T-shaped steel pin 20 which rides in a T-shaped slot 22 which is formed in the upper guides 24 which are mounted on each of the headboards 26 of the crib 18. The upper guides 24 are best shown in Figs. 6, 7, 8 and 9.

A key feature of the present invention is the lower rail guide 28 and the lower guide 30. The lower rail guides 28 are best shown in Figs. 2, 14 and 13.

The upper and lower rail guides 12 and 28 are
5 identical.

A pair of lower guides 30 are mounted on lower portions 32 of the headboards 26. The lower rail guides 28 each have a T-shaped steel pin 20. When in the upper locked position, the steel pin 20 enters a locking slot 34 formed in the
10 lower guide 30 as is best shown in Fig. 5. The locking slot 34 is formed by a first aperture 38 which communicates with a second aperture 40 as is shown in Fig. 14.

When it is desired to lower the side rail 16 of the crib 18, the side rail 16 must first be raised to allow the
15 steel pin 20 to leave the locking slot 34 and the side rail 16 must then be pushed inwardly relative to the crib 18 to overcome an integrally formed cantilever spring 42 which normally blocks access to a guide slot 44 which is formed in the lower guide 30. When the cantilever spring 42 is pushed
20 inwardly the steel pin 20 gains access to the guide slot 44 and the steel pin 20 can then slide downwardly thereby moving the side rail 16 down. The cantilever spring 42 is

preferably integrally molded as part of the lower guide 30 which is made of plastic.

When the side rail 16 is raised, the steel pin 20 pushes past the cantilever spring 42 and then rides down a 5 ramp 46 to enter the locking slot 34.

The details of construction of the lower guide 30 are best shown in Fig. 14, 14A, 14B, 15, 15A, 15B and 15C. The integrally molded cantilever spring 42 projects upwardly from the portion 48 of the lower guide 30. The upper end 50 10 of the cantilever spring 42 has a step portion 52 which moves into a recess portion 54 when the pin 20 moves upwardly, in the direction of the arrow 56 in Fig. 15B, thereby deflecting the cantilever spring 42 in the direction shown by the arrow 58 in Fig. 15B. The deflected position 15 of the cantilever spring 42 is shown in broken lines 60 in Fig. 15B. The recess portion 54 is defined in part by an integrally molded safety wall 62. The safety wall 62 prevents excessive deflection of the cantilever spring 42 in the direction shown by the arrow 64 in Fig. 15A and thereby 20 prevents overstressing the cantilever spring 42. The safety wall 62 prevents the steel pin 20 from leaving the guide 30.

As is shown in Fig. 15B when the side rail 16 and the steel pin 20 are lifted, the steel pin 20 enters the

aperture 38 and rides down the ramp 46 to enter the aperture 40. The ramp 46 has a dual function. When the side rail 16 is raised, the ramp 46 allows the steel pin 20 to easily ride down into the aperture 40. When the side rail 16 is to 5 be lowered, the ramp 46 allows the steel pin 20 to ride up the ramp 46 to a position in contact with the cantilever spring 42 whereby pressure in the direction shown by the arrow 56, in Fig. 15B causes the pin 20 to deflect the cantilever spring 42 thereby allowing the pin 20 to enter 10 the slot 44.

The apertures 38, 40 form the general configuration of a capital letter T. The portion 66 of the lower guide 30 adjacent to the aperture 38 forces a user to raise the side rail 16 and then lower the side rail 16 slightly thereby 15 allowing the pin 20 to enter the aperture 38. This relatively complex motion required by the present invention 10 of raising the side rail 16 and then slightly lowering the side rail provides an additional measure of safety while allowing the operation of the crib 18 to be performed with 20 one hand.

The side rail 16 can be easily operated with just one hand by raising the side rail 16 with one hand and pushing the bottom 67 of the side rail 16 inwardly with the knee.

The lower guide 30 includes a pair of projecting pins
68, 70 which cooperate with complementary holes in the
headboard 26 to prevent flexing of the lower guide 30 and
thereby maintain the free running of the pin 20 in the slot
5 44.

The side rail 16 is assembled to the headboard 26 by
inserting the steel pin 20 into a T-shaped entrance slot 72
which is formed in the lower guide 72 thereby allowing the
steel pin 20 to enter the guide slot 44.

10 It should be understood that this T-shaped entrance
slot 72 can be positioned on the side 74 of the guide slot
44 as shown or on the bottom 76 of the guide slot 44 or on
the top 78 of the guide slot 44.

15 The T-shaped entrance slot 72 has an integrally formed
locking cantilever spring 80. The locking cantilever spring
80 has an end 82 which projects into the slot 72. When the
side rail 16 is assembled to the headboard 26 the steel pin
20 is pushed past the locking cantilever spring 80 thereby
entering the guide slot 44.

20 When it is desired to remove the side rail 16 a release
pin 84 is pushed into a hole 86 formed on the surface 88.
As the pin 84 is pushed into the hole 86 the end 90 of the
pin 84 bears against the cantilever spring 80 bending the

cantilever spring 80 in an inward direction and moving the tip 92 of the cantilever spring 80 inwardly sufficiently to allow the tip 92 to clear the slot 72 thereby allowing the steel pin 20 to move out in the direction shown by the arrow 5 94 in Fig. 14. The lower guide 30 includes a stop 94 which supports a rubber bumper 96.

In an alternate embodiment of the invention the upper guides 24 are replaced by alternative upper guides 102 one of which is shown in Fig. 23 and the upper rail guides 12 10 are replaced by the upper rail guides 104 as is shown in Fig. 24. The lower guides 30 and the lower rail guides 28 are as described above. The upper rail guide 104 has a pair of inwardly projecting flanges 106, 108 which engage the T-shaped upper guide 102.

15 In the primary embodiment of the invention 10 the lower guide 30 and the cantilever spring 42 are made of plastic.

Figs. 25 and 26 show an alternative embodiment of the invention 200 which incorporates a metal cantilever spring 202. The spring 202 is mounted in a slot 204 which is 20 formed in the lower guide 206. The first end 208 of the spring 202 is bent to form a tab 210 which helps retain the spring 202 in the slot 204. The spring 202 operates in the

manner previously described in connection with the spring 42 to retain the pin 20.

Figs. 27 and 28 show an another alternative embodiment of the invention 300 which incorporates a metal leaf spring 5 302. The first and second ends 304, 306 of the spring 302 are mounted in slots 308, 310 which are formed in supports 312, 314 which are formed on the lower guide 316. The center portion 318 of the spring 302 operates in the manner previously described in connection with the spring 42 to 10 retain the pin 20.

The springs 202, 302 are behind and not in the planes of walls 212, 320 of the guides 206, 316, respectively.

The foregoing specific embodiments of the present invention as set forth in the specification herein are for 15 illustrative purposes only. Various deviations and modifications may be made within the spirit and scope of this invention without departing from the main theme thereof.

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A guide for a crib comprising:
2 a base with a first slot formed in said base with said
3 first slot having a periphery, a second slot formed in said
4 base and a third slot formed in said base communicating with
5 said first and said second slots, with said base having an
6 outer edge;
7 a first spring mounted on said base and disposed
8 blocking said second slot

1 2. The guide for a crib of claim 1 in which said first
2 spring comprises:
3 a cantilever spring having a first end mounted on said
4 base and a second end.

1 3. The guide for a crib of claim 2 further comprising:
2 a recess portion formed in said base disposed to
3 receive said second end of said first spring.

1 4. The guide for a crib of claim 2 further comprising:
2 a step portion formed on said second end of said first
3 spring.

1 5. The guide for a crib of claim 4 further comprising:
2 a wall disposed proximate said step portion.

1 6. The guide for a crib of claim 1 further comprising a
2 ramp portion formed in said second slot.

1 7. The guide for a crib of claim 1 further comprising:
2 a T-shaped slot communicating between said first slot
3 and said outer edge.

1 8. The guide for a crib of claim 7 further comprising:
2 a second spring projecting from said base and
3 comprising an end disposed projecting into said T-shaped
4 slot.

1 9. The guide for a crib of claim 7 further comprising:
2 an aperture portion formed in said base, disposed
3 proximate and in general alignment with said end of said
4 second spring.

1 10. A crib comprising:
2 headboard,
3 a side rail,

4 an elongated upper guide,
5 sliding means mounted on said side rail for
6 engagement of said upper guide;
7 a lower guide comprising:
8 a base with a first slot formed in said base with
9 said first slot having a periphery, a second slot formed in
10 said base and a third slot formed in said base communicating
11 with said first and said second slots, with said base having
12 an outer edge;
13 a first cantilever spring disposed projecting from
14 said base and disposed blocking said second slot with said
15 cantilever spring having a tip.

1 11. The crib of claim 10 further comprising:
2 a least one pin projecting from said base of said lower
3 guide and disposed engaging said headboard.

1 12. The crib of claim 10 in which said sliding means
2 mounted on said side rail comprises:
3 a pin projecting from said side rail and engaging said
4 elongated upper guide.

1 13. The crib of claim 10 in which said sliding means
2 mounted on said side rail comprises:

3 a pair of flanges with said flanges engaging said
4 elongated upper guide.

1 14. The guide for a crib of claim 2 in which said first
2 spring comprises:

3 a metal cantilever spring.

1 15. The guide for a crib of claim 2 in which said first
2 spring comprises:

3 a plastic cantilever spring.

1 16. The guide for a crib of claim 1 in which said guide
2 spring comprises:

3 a plastic member.

1 17. The guide for a crib of claim 2 in which said first
2 spring comprises:

3 a leaf spring.

ABSTRACT

A crib includes a pair of lower guides which are mounted on lower portions of the headboards. When it is desired to lower the side rail of the crib, the side rail
5 must first be raised to allow a steel pin to leave a locking slot and the side rail must then be pushed inwardly relative to the crib to overcome an integrally formed cantilever spring which normally blocks access to a guide slot which is formed in the lower guide. When the
10 cantilever spring is pushed inwardly, the steel pin gains access to the guide slot and the steel pin can then slide downwardly thereby moving the side rail down.

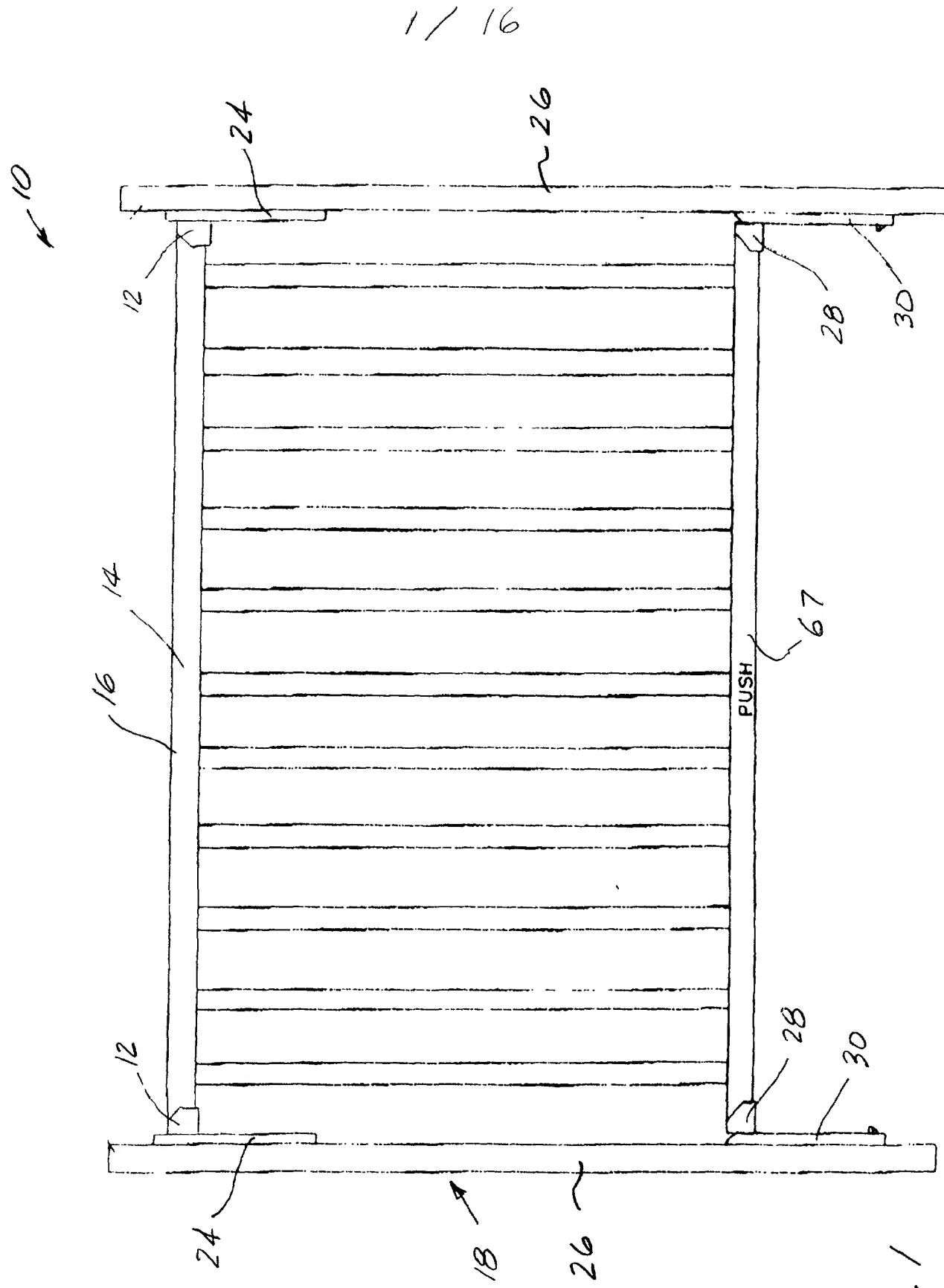


FIG. 1

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FIG. 2

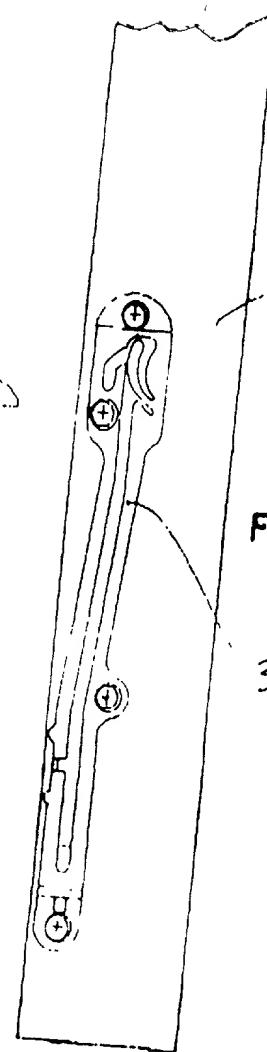
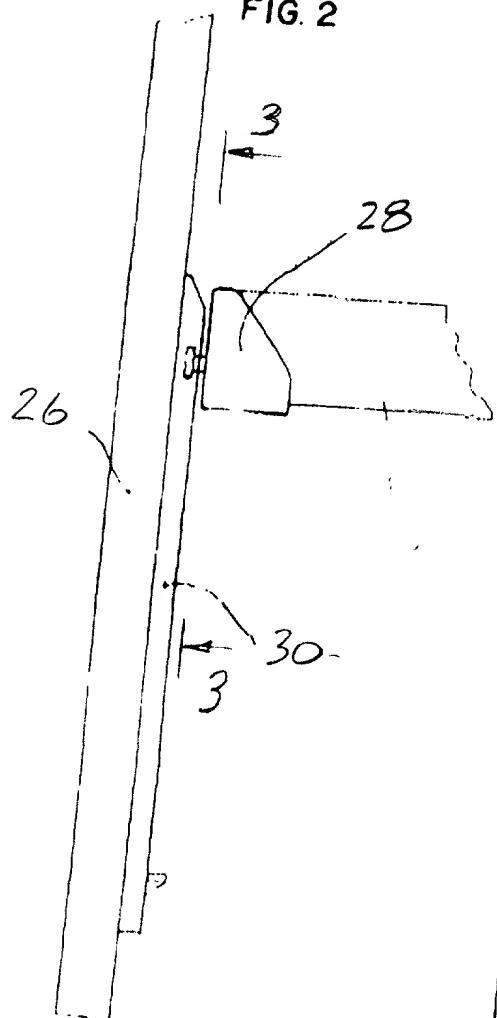


FIG. 4

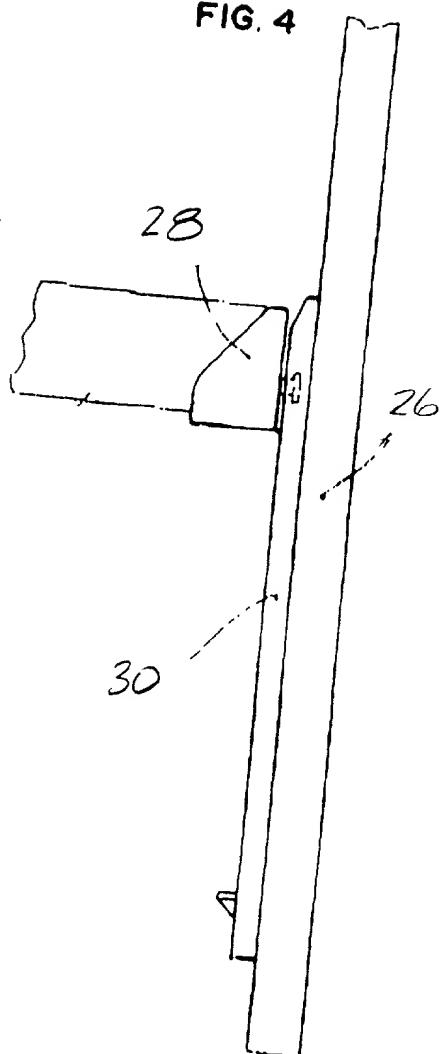
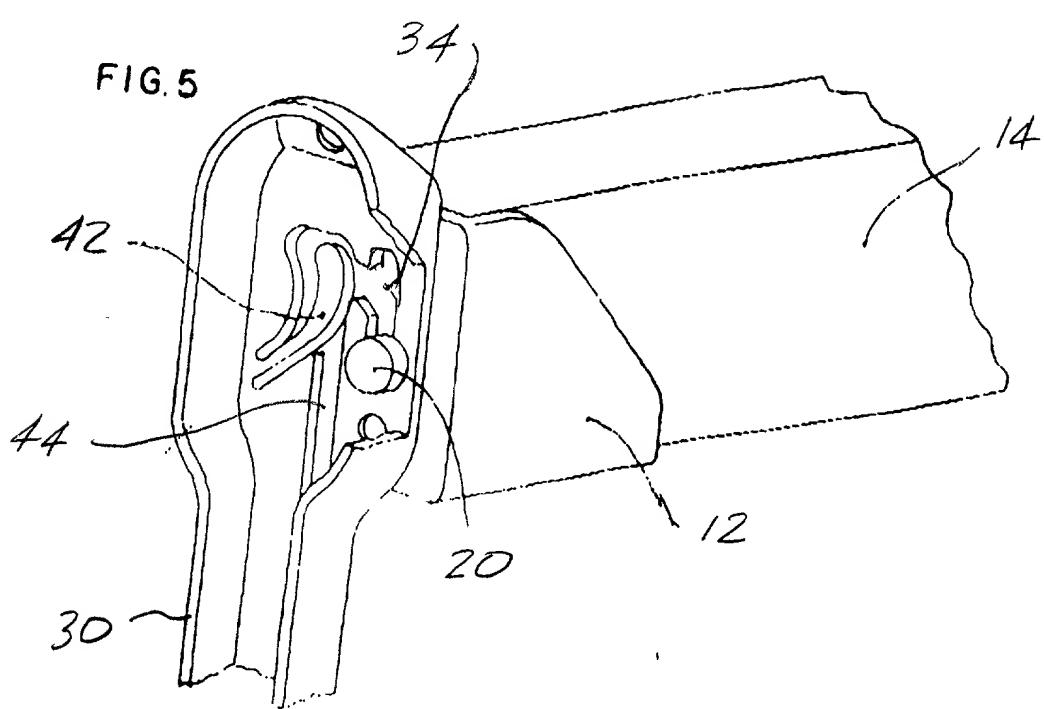


FIG. 5



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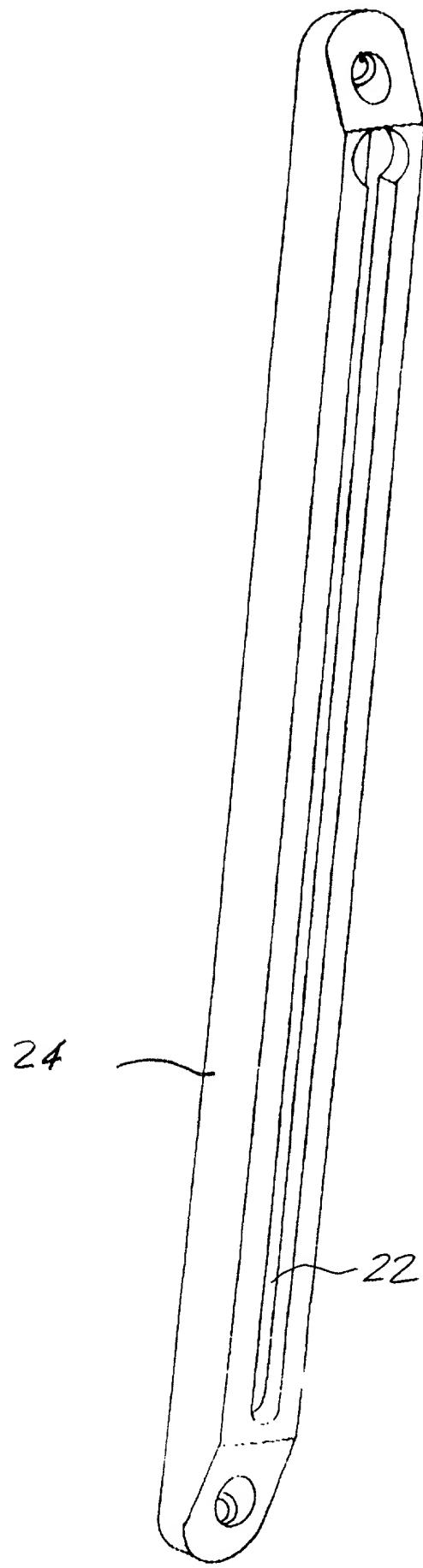


Fig. 6

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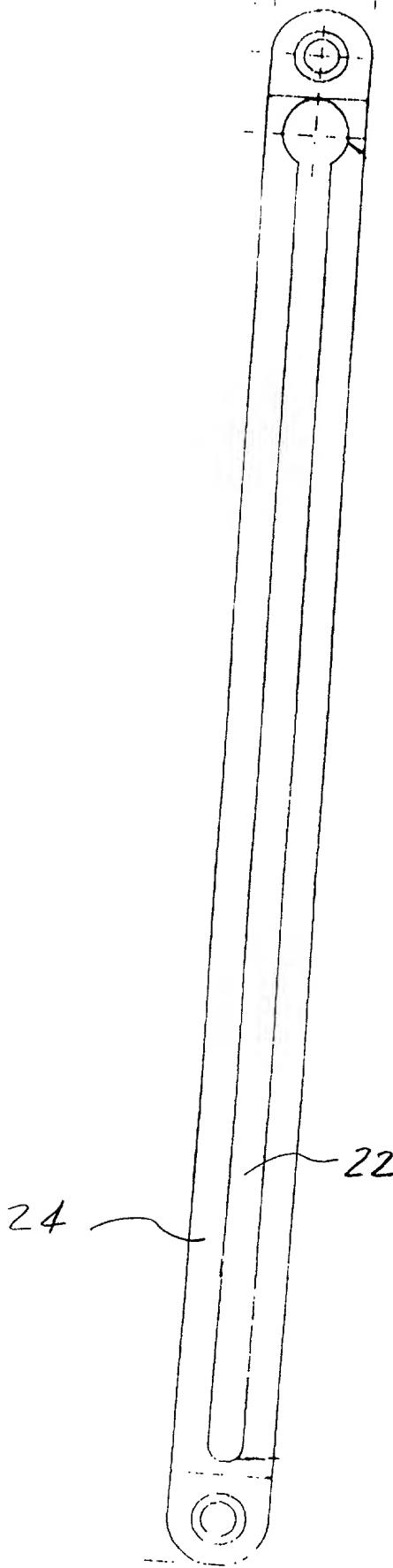


Fig. 7

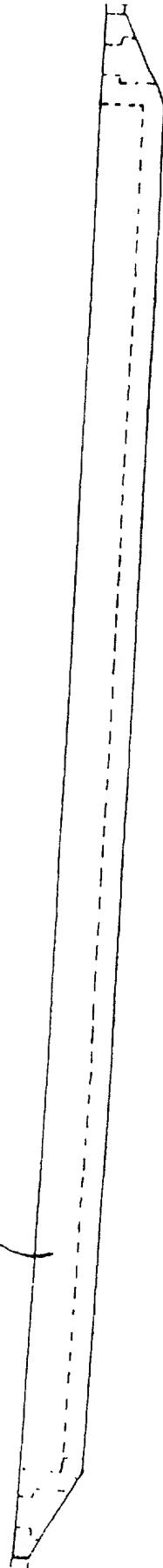


Fig. 8

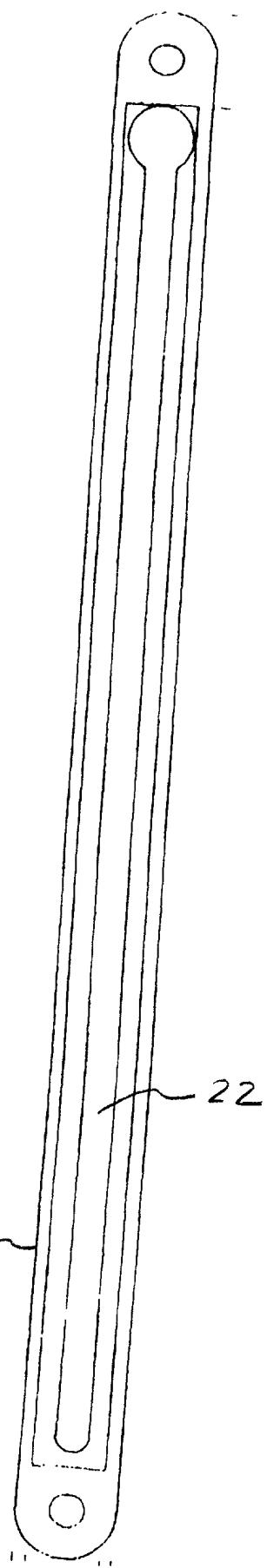


Fig. 9

5/16

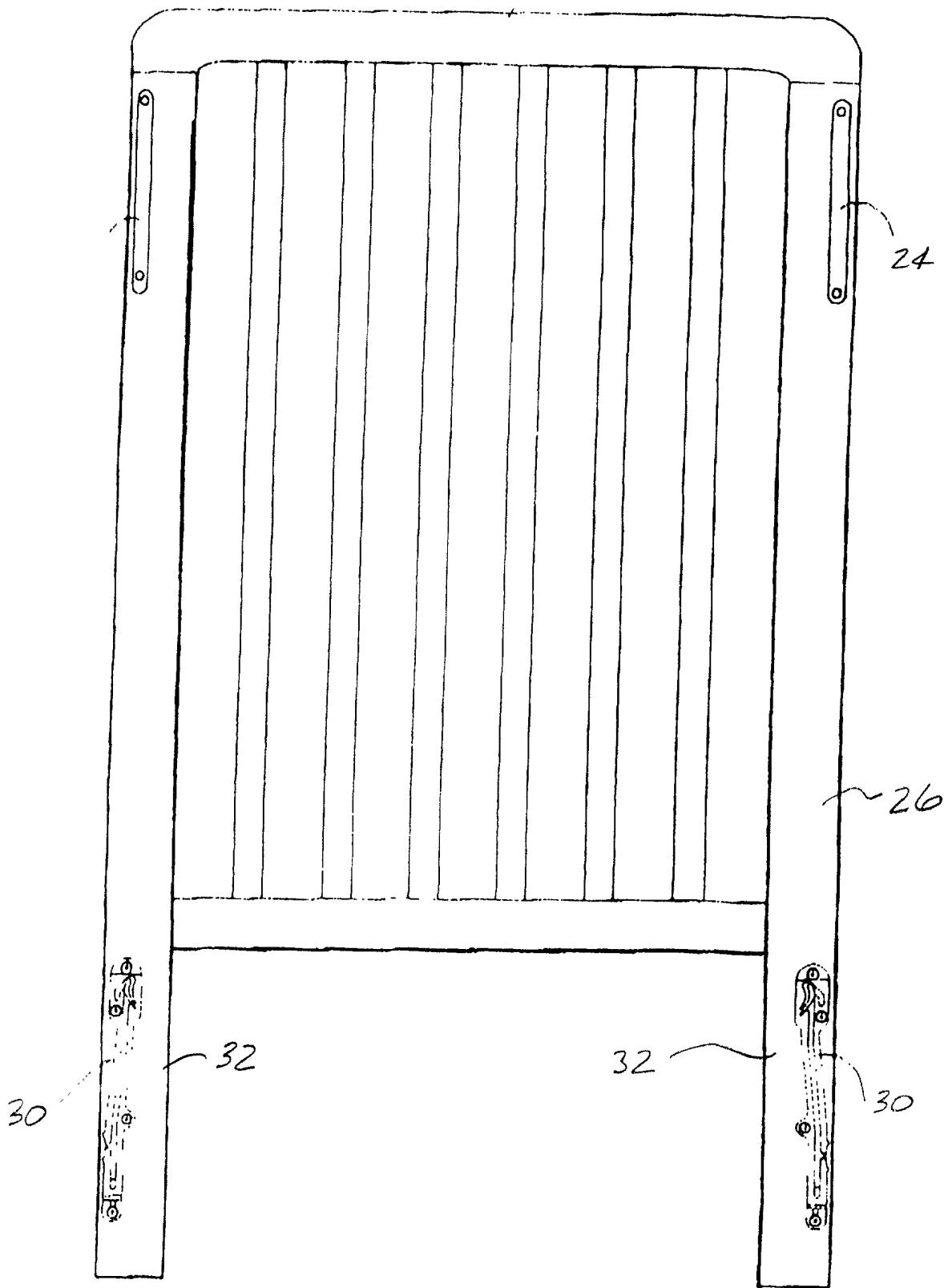


Fig. 10

6116
60 60 60 60 60

6116

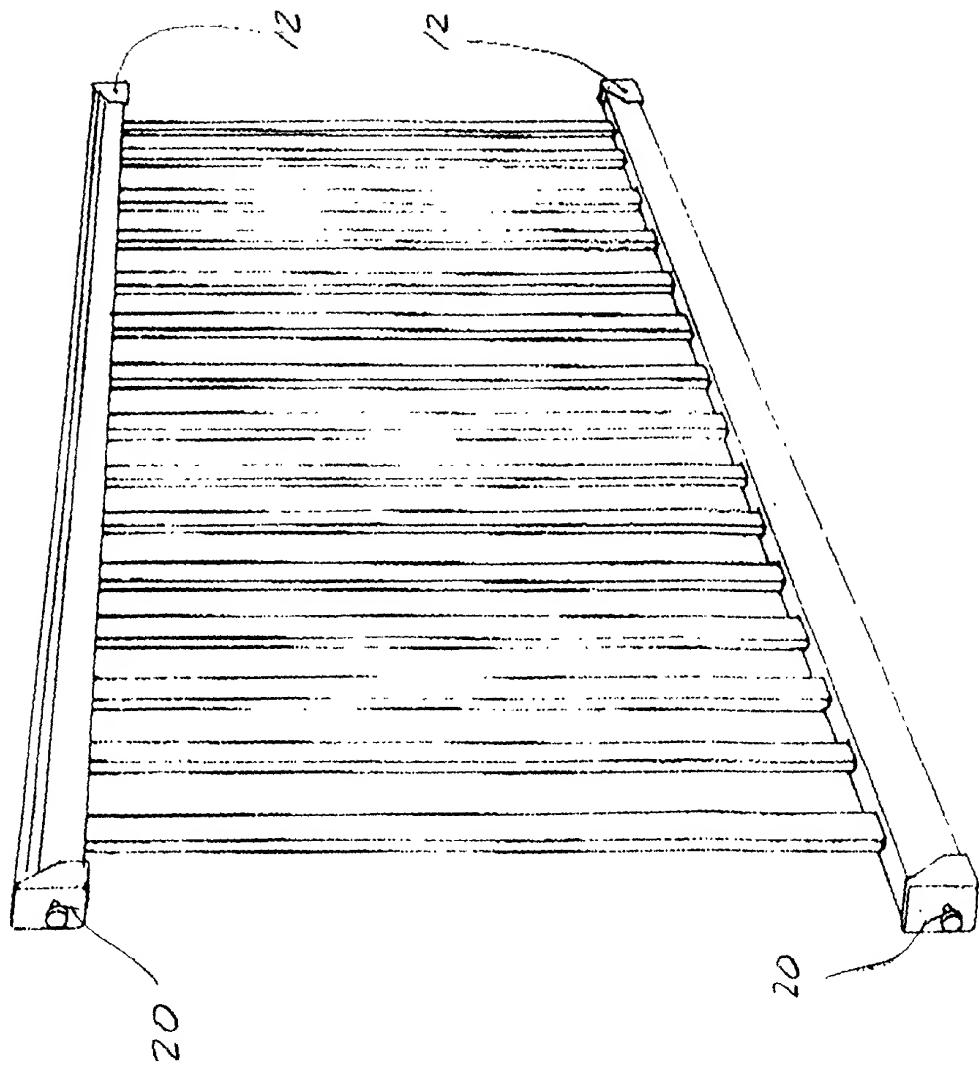


Fig. 11

7/16

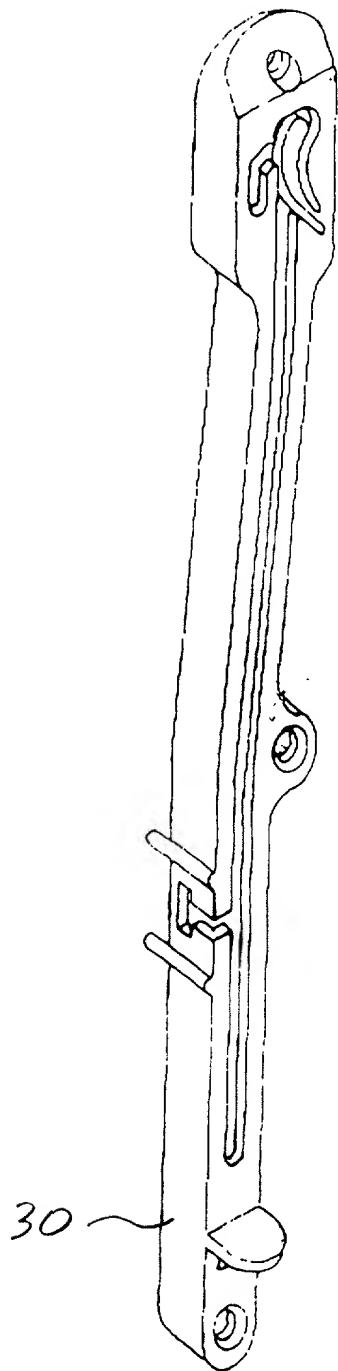


Fig. 12

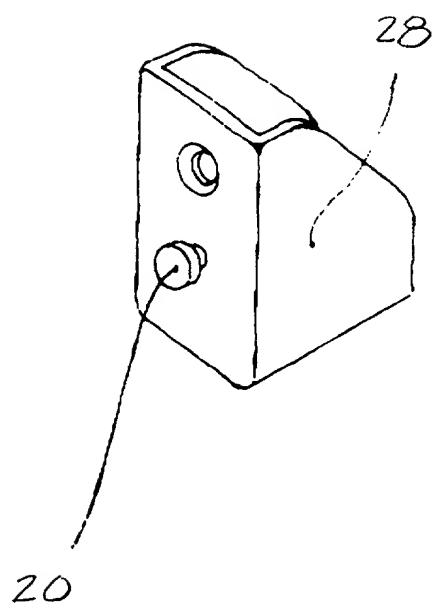


Fig. 13

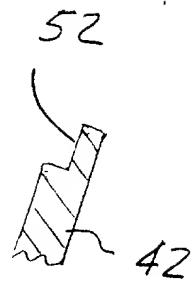
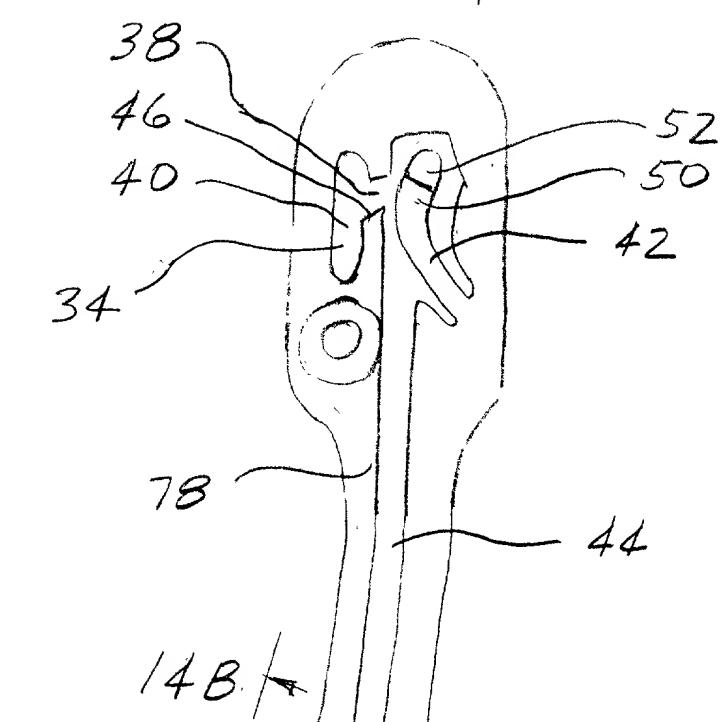


FIG 14B

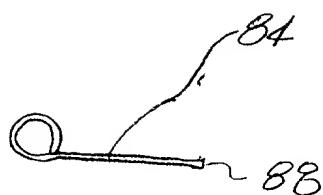
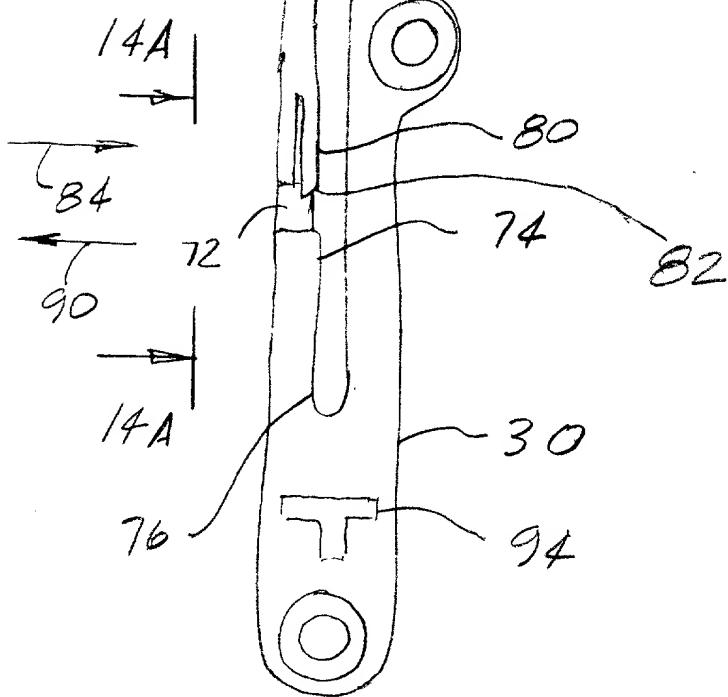


FIG 14C

FIG. 14

9/16

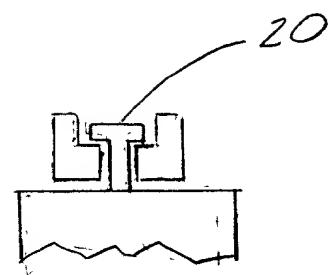


FIG 15 C

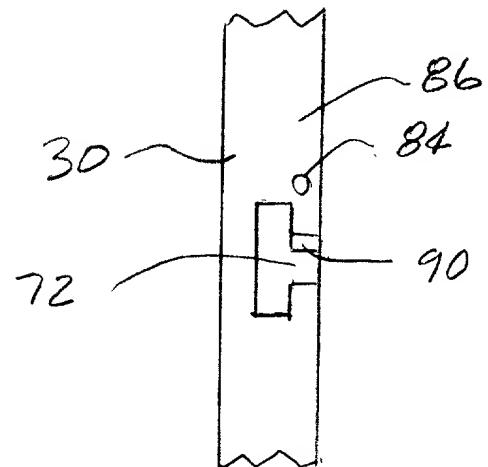


FIG. 14 A

10/16

15A ↘

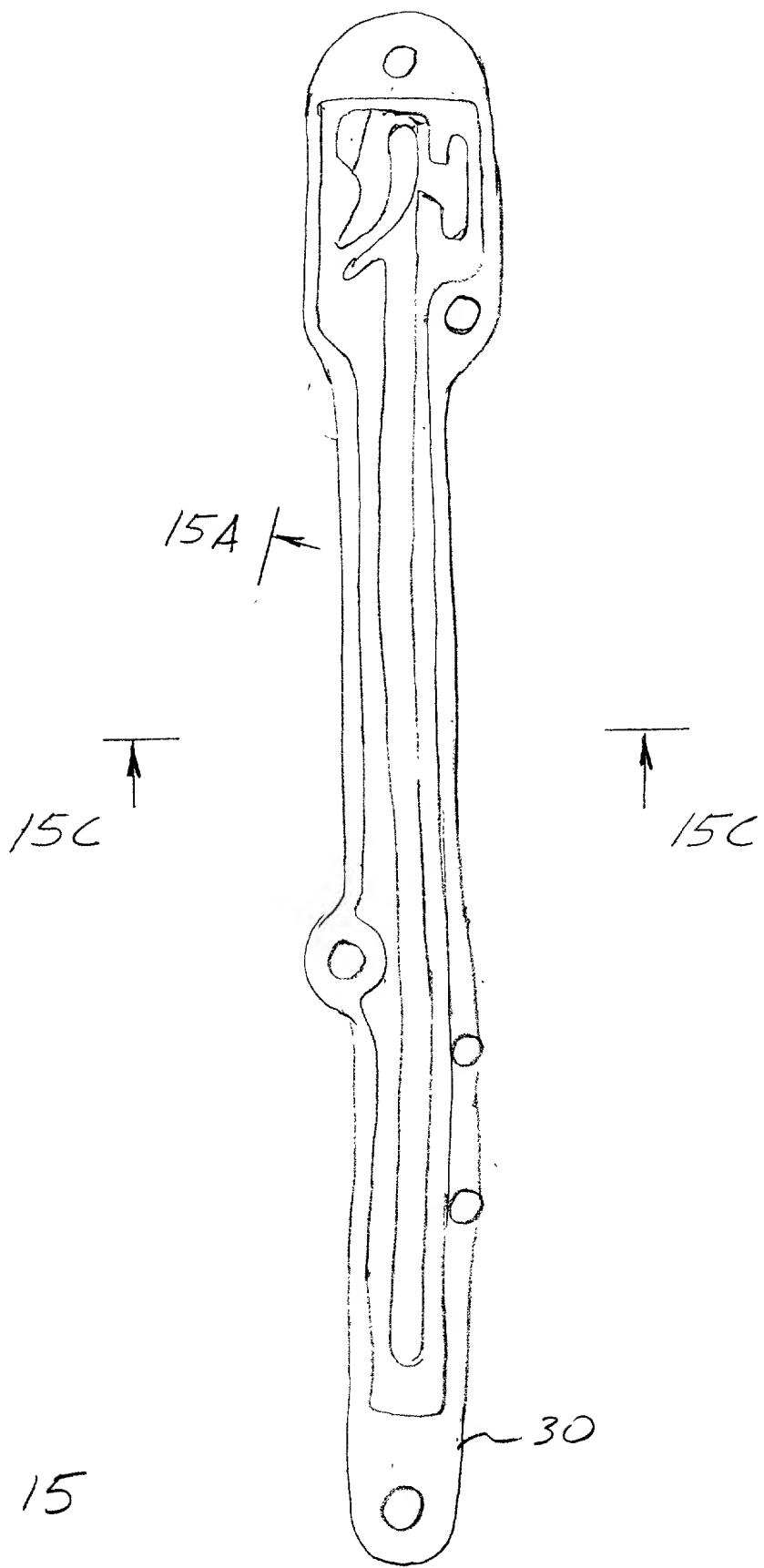


FIG. 15

11/16

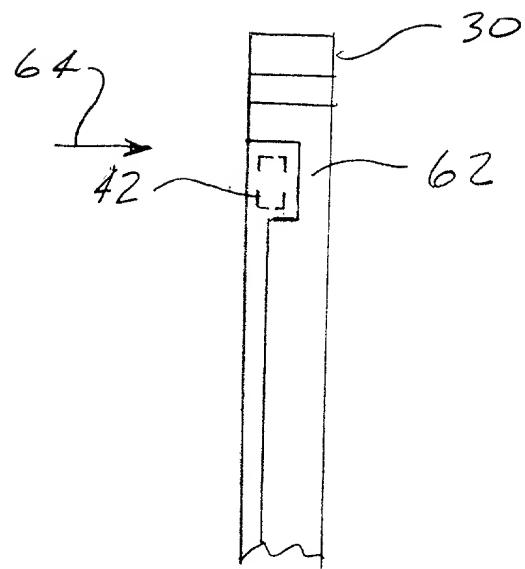


FIG. 15A

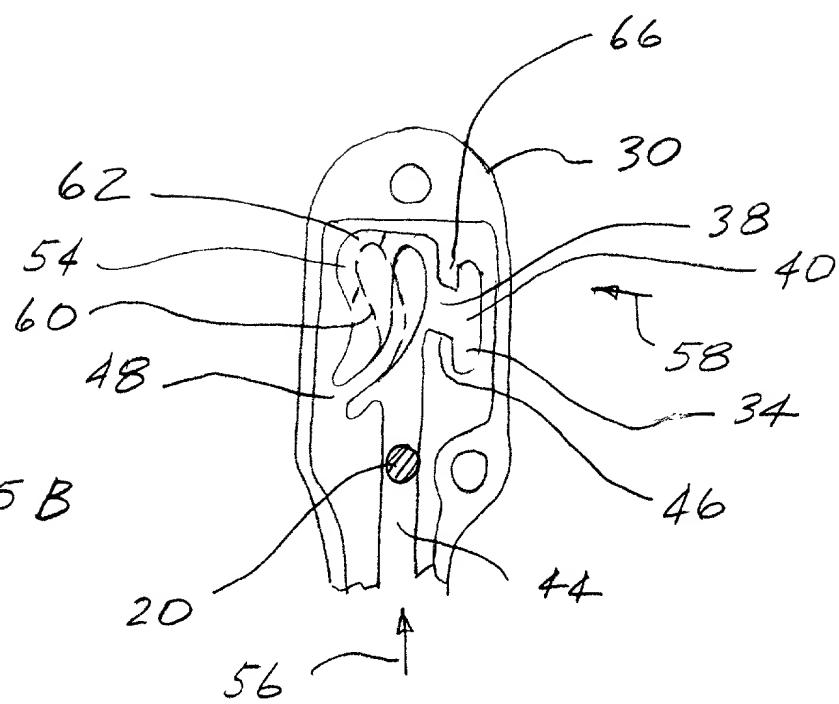


FIG. 15B

12/16

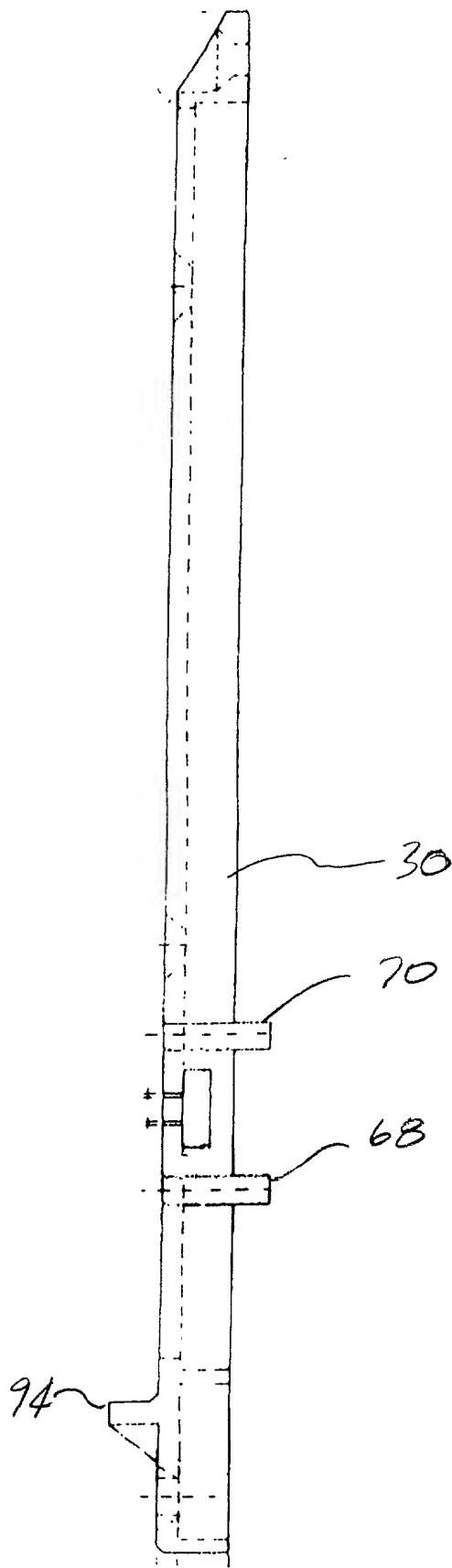


Fig. 16

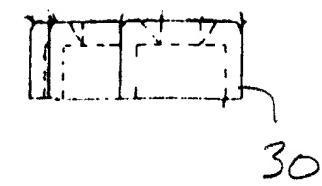


Fig. 17

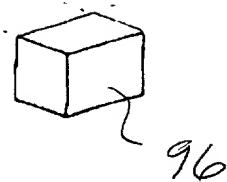


Fig. 22

13/16

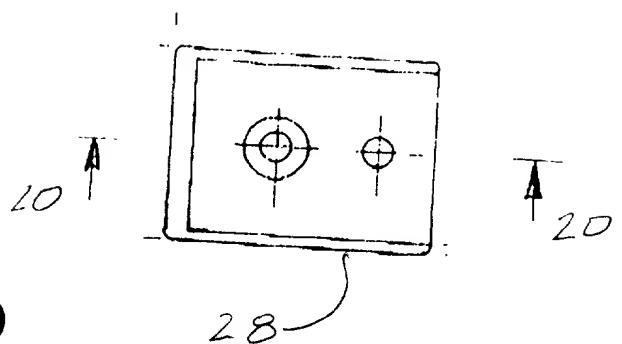


Fig. 19

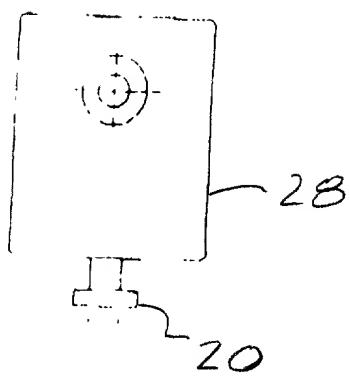


Fig. 18

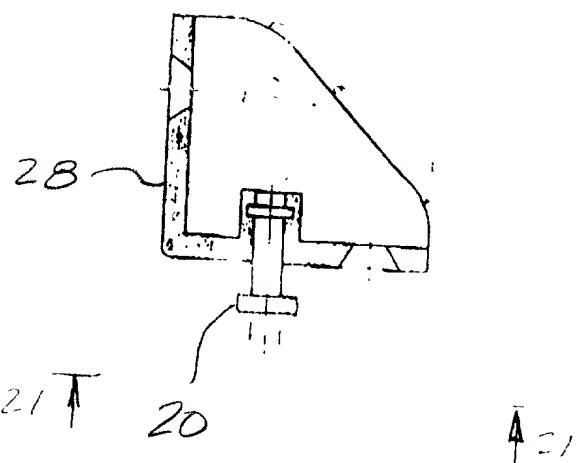


Fig. 20

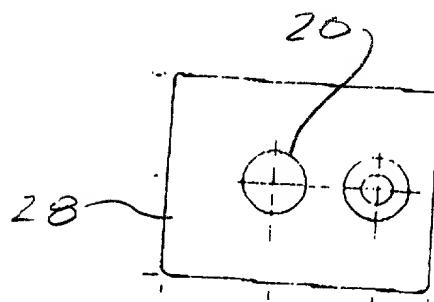


Fig. 21

14/16

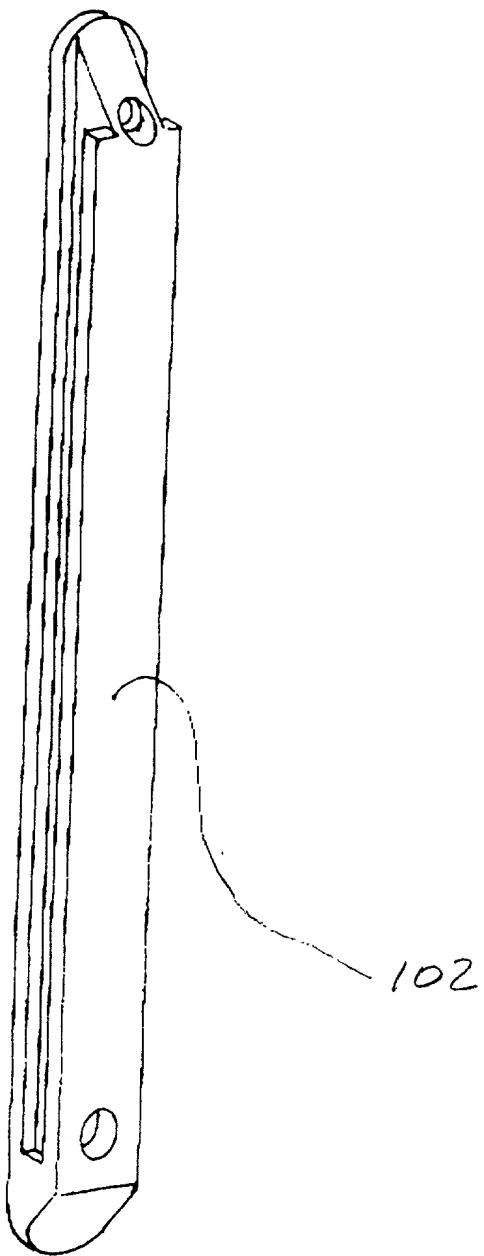


Fig. 23

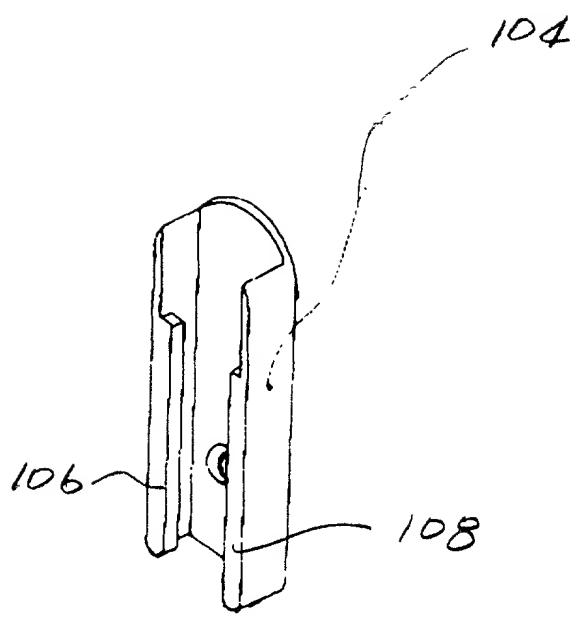
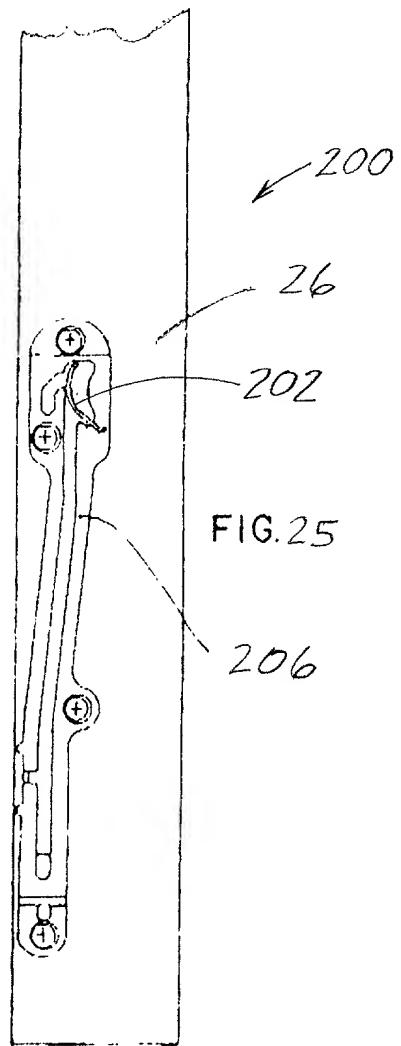
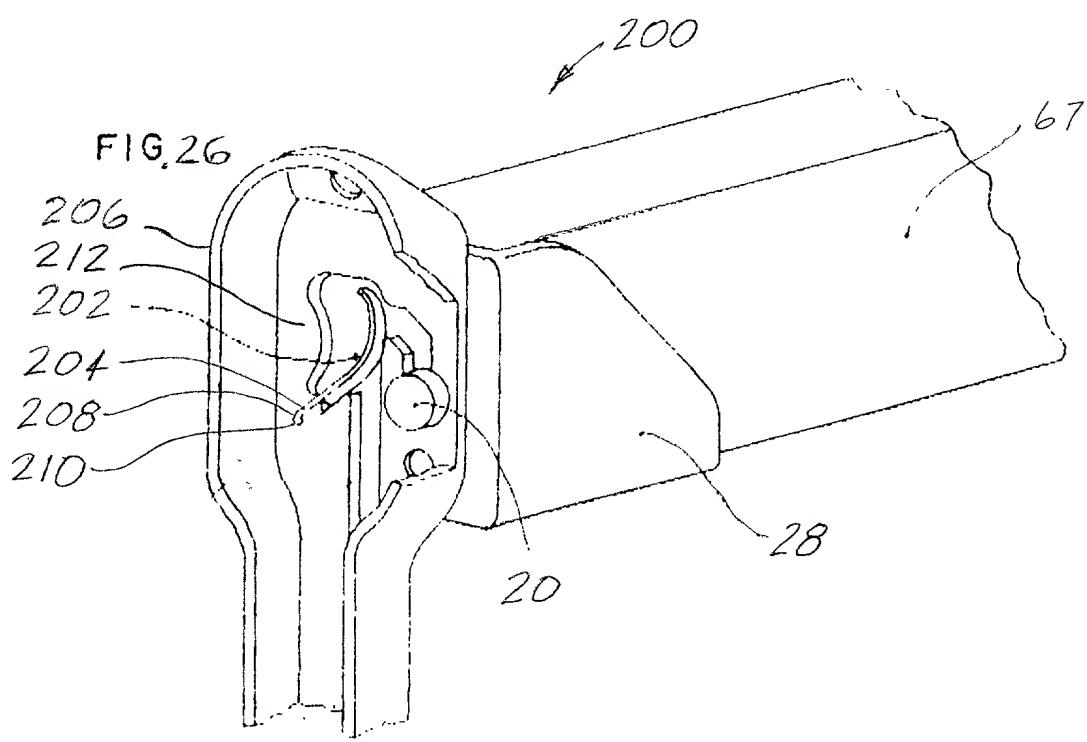


Fig. 24

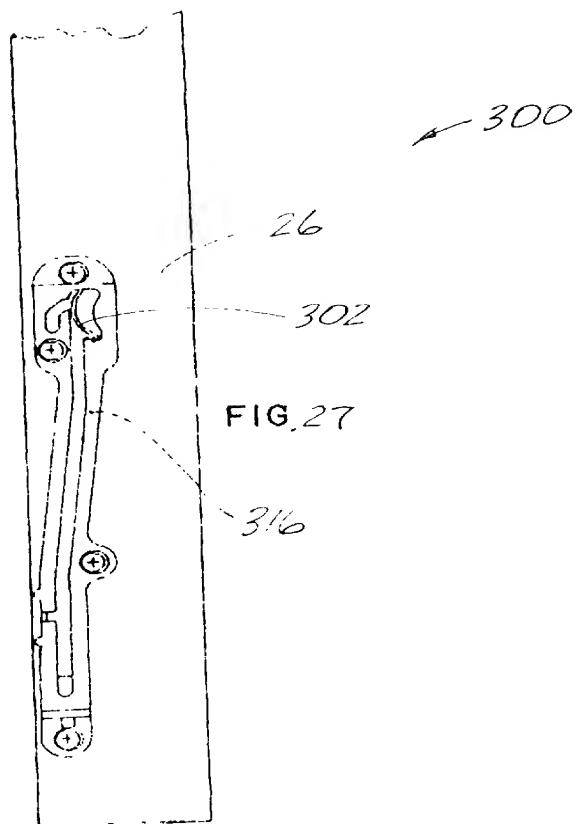
15/16



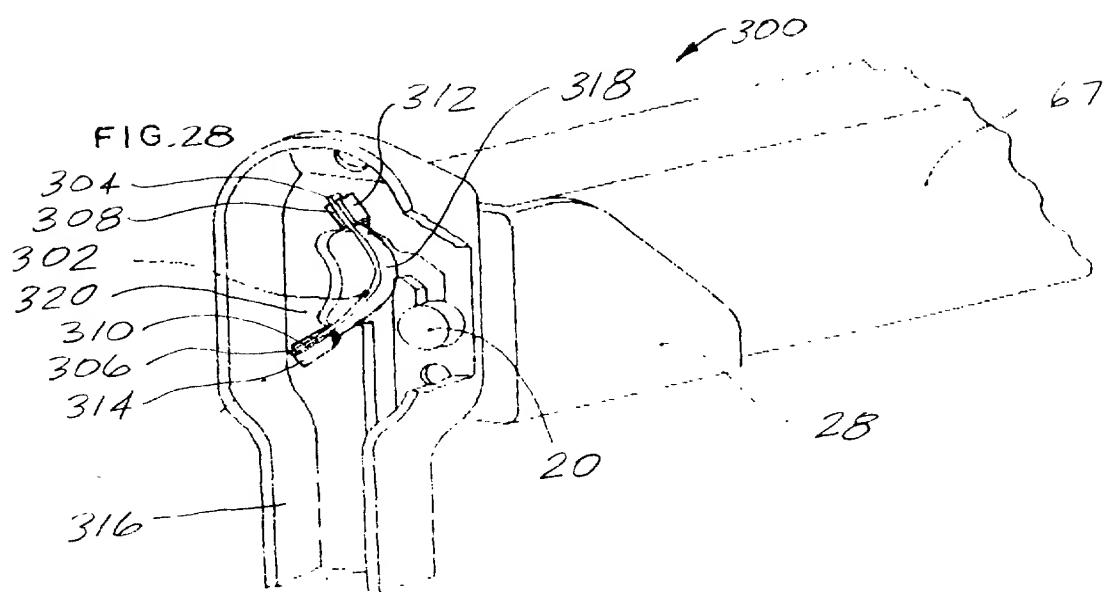
0 2 6 5 5 0 6 2 . 0 5 0 5 0 0



16/16



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**DECLARATION FOR UTILITY OR
DESIGN
PATENT APPLICATION
(37 CFR 1.63)**

Declaration Submitted with Initial Filing Declaration Submitted after Initial Filing (surcharge (37 CFR 1.16 (e)) required)

Attorney Docket Number	
First Named Inventor LOUIS SHAMIE	
COMPLETE IF KNOWN	
Application Number	/
Filing Date	
Group Art Unit	
Examiner Name	

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

HARDWARE SYSTEM FOR A CRIB

the specification of which

(Title of the Invention)

is attached hereto

OR

was filed on (MM/DD/YYYY)

as United States Application Number or PCT International

Application Number and was amended on (MM/DD/YYYY) (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or 365(e) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, or of any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Application Number(s)	Country	Foreign Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Priority Not Claimed	Certified Copy Attached?
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Additional foreign application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto:

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60/164,079	12/24/99	<input type="checkbox"/> Additional provisional application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto.

[Page 1 of 2]

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U.S. Parent Application or PCT Parent Number	Parent Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Parent Patent Number (if applicable)	
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Inventor's Signature <i>Louis J. Shamie</i>	Date 8/25/00		
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City	State	ZIP	Country
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